

FIG. 1

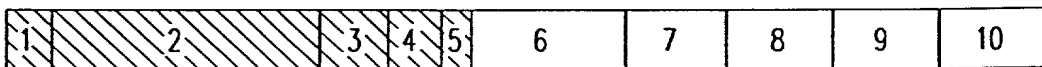


FIG. 2 ( PRIOR ART )

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,  
CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

This declaration is for a national stage of PCT application.

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TITLE OF INVENTION**

METHOD AND DEVICES FOR CODING OR DECODING AN AUDIO SIGNAL OR BIT STREAM

**SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION**

The specification is attached hereto.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

**PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. Section 119(a)-(d))**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

Such applications have been filed as follows.

**PRIOR PCT APPLICATION(S) FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS  
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS APPLICATION  
AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. SECTION 119(a)-(d)**

| INDICATE<br>IF PCT | APPLICATION NUMBER | DATE OF FILING<br>DAY, MONTH, YEAR | PRIORITY<br>CLAIMED<br>UNDER 35 U.S.C.<br>SECTION 119 |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| PCT                | PCT/EP98/08475     | 28 December 1998                   | yes   |

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I hereby appoint the practitioner(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

**Customer No. 24283**

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO  
**Customer No. 24283**

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:  
Carl A. Forest  
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**DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**SIGNATURE(S)**

Ralph Sperschneider

**Inventor's signature** *Ralph Sperschneider*

**Date** August 13, 2001

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